



#16/BW Translation  
U. Brown  
3/25/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :  
KATSUHIRO AOKI ET AL. : GROUP ART UNIT: 2852  
SERIAL NO: 09/535,158 :  
FILED: MARCH 24, 2000 : EXAMINER: GRAINGER, Q.  
FOR: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS  
METHOD AND DEVELOPING DEVICE  
TO OBTAIN A STABLE IMAGE DENSITY

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Action mailed December 19, 2002, please amend the  
above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 14 and 28 without prejudice or disclaimer.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-13, 15- 27, and 29 are pending in this application. Claims 14 and 28 have  
been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

The outstanding Official Action includes a rejection of Claims 12 and 26 under 35  
U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sakurba ((U.S. Patent No. 6,112,043) in view of  
what the outstanding Action continues to mistakenly characterize as “admitted prior art of